



**MNO Orangecrest  
June 27 2007  
Franklin Elementary School**

### **Legal**

Q - Can the City of Riverside, like other cities, ban smoking outside of public buildings like restaurants?

A - Yes. Councilmember Schiavone has requested that the City Attorney's Office survey various cities which have implemented similar restrictions and present its research for consideration by the City Council.

### **Library**

Q - What is the timeline for completion of the library at Orangecrest?

A - Orange Terrace Library - located at the Orange Terrace Park. The new library will be 13,000 square feet and is scheduled to open near the end of next year. This combined facility with the Park's Community Center will be a LEED Certified "green" building made possible by the \$3 million dollar contribution from Riverside's Public Utilities Department. Some of the exciting features include:

- a coffee-bar,
- a story time room and performer's stage,
- plasma TV screens,
- plenty of PC stations for youth and adults,
- free wireless access throughout the building,
- meeting/study group rooms with electronic white board, and
- a welcoming and beautiful setting with plenty of comfortable seating.

### **Parks**

Q - There is a need for a skate park in the Orange Terrace area for kids to ride bikes, skateboards, scooters and not be on city streets or at businesses like the one on Jackson Street and in other Cities. Are there any plans for such a park in the Orangecrest area or could there be?

A - There are currently no plans for a skate park in the Orange Terrace area, due to the fact that the park has already been built out; however, consideration could be given to constructing such a facility in the future by following the normal process.

Any proposal for an additional skate park within the park system would need to go through the process of receiving both public input and user group testimony, as well as city councilmember support of the proposal. Staff could

then explore the various options that might be available in the Orangecrest community to provide such a facility in the area.

### **Planning:**

Q - Why was did the City allow the development of residential areas in the flight path of March Air Reserve?

A - Most of the Orangecrest area was subject to a Specific Plan approved by the County of Riverside prior to annexation into the City. The Specific Plan granted the property owner/developer rights to develop the land in accordance with the approved plan. Once the property was annexed, the City of Riverside was legally obligated to allow development that was in substantial compliance with the County approved Specific Plan, which has been done.

A similar response applies to the newly annexed property and property proposed for annexation south of Krameria and west of Barton. Much of this property was included in the Alta Cresta Specific Plan approved by the County of Riverside. As it was annexed into the City of Riverside, the City was able to negotiate a density decrease. As such, affected properties were removed from the Alta Cresta Specific Plan and included into the Orangecrest Specific Plan. The end result was a density of almost half of what would have been permitted by the Alta Cresta Specific Plan.

### **Public Works:**

Q - The street sweeping program is being tested in the Orangecrest area. However, there have been some challenges. Can we count on some consistency regarding when the sweepers come by so we can return our cars to the street after they come? What is the plan to improve the program?

A - Sweeping in the Orangecrest area is set up for every other Tuesday. Service will be performed in a timely manner based on posted times for the neighborhood. We also will have our sweeper supervisor spending more time doing site inspections. We have recently modified the sweepers work schedule to better accommodate the residents in the new sweeping areas. In addition, we are working on our website to increase our communication to the public regarding the street sweeping program. Public Works welcomes any input and suggestions regarding this program. If you have any questions or concerns you may contact Jenna Combs at 826-5847

Q - Can something be done to prevent drivers from crossing the double lines going North on Wood at Van Buren like putting poles in the street to divert traffic?

A - A review of the operation and circulation for this property indicates there is a legal left turn allowed for entering traffic and exiting traffic from the driveway on Wood. The exit has been ordered to now prohibit left turns out, as vehicles can exit onto Van Buren instead. The entrance will be retained to allow having left turns in as Northbound U-turns are prohibited on Wood and further restrictions

would inhibit access to the property. Staff will monitor the new signage after it is installed for any further operational concerns.

Q - Can a plan be put in place for recycling at apartments? We lived at an apartment for a while and there no options for recycling.

A - The City of Riverside recognizes the importance of providing options to apartment residents for standard household recycling. To that end, the Public Works Department provides opportunities through its CURE Program for safe disposal and recycling to all Riverside residents, including:

- • Free Drop Off Days at the Agua Mansa Materials Recovery Facility one Saturday each month
- • Special curbside services for collection of used motor oil and filters; and refrigerators and freezers which use Freon
- • Incredible BULK events for the collection of tires, appliances, electronic waste for recycling and bulky items for disposal two times a year
- • Household hazardous waste events four times a year in conjunction with the County for the collection and recycling of hazardous items such as paints, motor oil and other hazardous materials

In addition to the opportunities noted above, the Public Works Department has begun research, which should lead to the formulation of a multi-family recycling program for residents who live in apartments. This program will include the recycling of typical household items such as papers, cardboard, glass bottles, plastics, etc. It is anticipated that a preliminary draft will be completed by the end of this year, which will enable staff to move forward with an agreement with the franchised haulers and apartment owners shortly after then.

Q - The speed limit within Riverside should be no more than a maximum of 45 mph in an effort to make the streets safer. Can this be done?

A - The speed limits are regulated by law and cannot be set at 45 mph, unless supported by a traffic study. Speed limits are basically set to what most drivers consider reasonable for the prevailing conditions (approx. 20 % below the fastest speeds most drivers drive.) These are re-evaluated on a regular basis and staff will lower speed limits as the law permits. Recently, Alessandro was re-evaluated and the limit was lowered from 55mph to 50 mph as an example.

Q - What are the plans for to widen and improve the traffic flow on Van Buren?

A - There are numerous projects that will be constructed along Van Buren during the next 24 months including:

- Widening to 6 lanes from 91 freeway to Garfield
- Widening to 6 lanes from Jackson to Jurupa
- Widening for a right turn lane @ Equestrian
- Installing westbound dual left turns @ Wood
- Widening the Interchange @ 91 freeway to 8 lanes

- Interconnecting 17 signals from Orange Terrace to Mockingbird Cyn.
- Retiming Van Buren to synchronize the green lights
- Minor improvements to side streets such as Coyote Bush, Wood, Cleveland to reduce signal time needed and give more time to Van Buren

Each of these projects will help the flow on Van Buren and ease some of the congestion. There are still a lot of extra vehicles on Van Buren (and on Alessandro) as a result of the 91/60/215 interchange and freeway construction, and when that project is completed in 18 months, traffic volumes on Van Buren should reduce somewhat and allow for further congestion relief.

### **Police:**

Q - There has been an increase in crime in the Orangecrest area. What plan does the police have for this?

A - The immediate plan is to develop more neighborhood watch programs which will increase the "eyes and ears" for the neighborhoods. During the summer months we have reassigned 4 School Resource Officers and developed a task force that has focused on burglaries and grand theft auto investigations specifically in the East Neighborhood Policing Center. This task force is lead by the East NPC Sergeant and an East NPC Detective. It has been in effect for 1 week as of today with 12 felony arrests after the first week! More to come on this program.

The long term goal is to assign up to 5 officers in the Orangecrest area nightly instead of only 2 that are assigned now. With the additional officers we have graduating the field training program; we should be able to reach this goal by the end of the summer.

### **Mayor's Office & City Council:**

Q - There were several questions regarding concerns about the DHL flight plan over Riverside.

A - As a result of lengthy negotiations with DHL, by mid-September DHL will be replacing 2 of the 5 noisy DC-9's from their fleet. We will continue with negotiations to remove all of the DC-9's.

Q - I believe it is time to start televising the March Joint Powers Commission meetings. Can this be done?

A - The March Joint Powers Commission is exploring the possibility of televising the meetings.

Q - I think it is time to disband the Civilian Review Board.

A - The Community Police Review Commission was established in 2004 by a vote of the people of Riverside and therefore it is part of the City Charter.